

CHARLES, I. et al.  
Serial No. unknown

**REMARKS**

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page(s) is captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made.**"

Respectfully submitted,

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Page 1, before the first line, insert as a separate paragraph:

This application is the US national phase of international application  
PCT/GB00/02879 filed 26 July 2000, which designated the US.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the organism is a bacterium, yeast, fungus, plant or animal.
4. A method according to claim 1, wherein:
  - in step (ii) polynucleotide sequences flanking one side of the transposons are isolated to give a pool of sequences and polynucleotide sequences flanking the other side of the transposons are isolated to give a separate second pool of sequences; and
  - in step (iii) the first pool of sequences is hybridised with a first sample of the said polynucleotide library and the second pool of sequences is hybridised with a second sample of the said polynucleotide library.
6. A method according to claim 4, wherein the library of transposon mutants is a library of *TnphoA E. coli* mutants.
8. A method for identifying a conditional essential gene of an organism comprising:
  - (i) providing a first sample of a library of transposon mutants of the said organism (input library);
  - (ii) providing a second sample of the library and subjecting that sample to a conditional restraint;

- (iii) collecting the mutants that survive the conditional restraint in step (ii) to give a new library (output library);
- (iv) carrying out a method according to claim 1 on the input library from step (i) and on the output library from step (iii), thereby to determine a conditional essential gene of the organism.

10. A method for identifying:

- (i) an inhibitor of transcription and/or translation of an essential gene identified by a method according to claim 1 or a conditional essential gene identified by a method according to claim 8; and/or
- (ii) an inhibitor of activity of a polypeptide encoded by a said gene,

which method comprises determining whether a test substance can inhibit transcription and/or translation of a said gene and/or activity of a polypeptide encoded by a said gene.